

is clothed with loose, cracked papyraceous bark and the branches are straight, rigid, singularly angled and winged with vertical alae, which are sinuate and downy or fringed at the edge." (Curtis's Botanical Magazine, no. 4827.)

*Gleditsia sinensis*. (Caesalpinaceae.) 38800-802. Seeds of three varieties of Chinese soap-bean. "These Chinese *Gleditsias* often grow to a very large size, becoming quite old and at times making beautiful, well rounded heads of dense branches and foliage. The conspicuous pods persist on the trees all through the winter. They are marvelously drought resistant and do not object to a certain amount of alkali. Recommended as an ornamental park and shade tree for the mild-wintered, semi-arid sections of the United States. The Chinese find use for the pods, when sliced up, as a substitute for soap for washing their hair and certain fabrics. Chinese name 'Tsao chio.' The young trees often have their trunks covered with big spines which often have totally disappeared when the trees are old." (Meyer's introductions.)

*Hordeum* sp. (Poaceae.) 38885. Seed of barley from Esperanza, Sonora, Mexico. Presented by Mr. W. W. Mackie, Director Yaqui Valley Experiment Station. "White Turkestan barley gathered in Merv, Transcaspia, in 1911. These seeds came from selections out of three years of crops during which time I have had them under observation. The Wahl-Henius Institute of Fermentology, to which a quantity of the seed was sent report as follows: 'The barley itself is of the 6-rowed *nutans* type and has a marked flesh-colored aleurone layer, such as is characteristic of barleys of Asiatic origin, in fact, the flesh colored appearance is more pronounced than we have ever noticed in any similar barley before. This barley really is strange to us. It is irregular in size and form, and has a very low albumen content' (due no doubt to the skinning off of the germ or embryo by too close threshing). 'The taste and flavor are remarkably agreeable. If any of this barley is malted, we should be pleased to receive a five-pound sample of the malt. If this barley could possibly be grown on a rich nitrogenous soil, so that the albumen content could be increased to about 13%, it, in our opinion, would be by far the best barley for malting purposes among the ten samples you sent.' Our field tests show this barley to be very vigorous and hardy with splendid germination. In height it is about 20 to 30% shorter than the common California 6-rowed barley but produces thicker and longer heads. It is nearly three weeks earlier in maturing, in other words it is a quick growing variety. On account of its propensity to rust I would advise that it be planted inland away from the influence of the sea coast and fogs.